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Docket No. 1232-4671

LISTING OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-43 are pending. Please amend claims 1, 6, 7, 15, 17, 19, 24, 25, 35 and 41, cancel claims 4, 5, 16, 22, 23 and 34 without prejudice or disclaimer and add new claims 44 and 45, as follows.

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

1. (Currently Amended) An automatic work standard setting system which gives manhour data to a target work standard, comprising:

a first storage unit which stores a standard manhour database designed to be readable by a computer, in which a number of groups each constituted by a work standard described by a standard expression and manhour corresponding to the work standard are registered in advance;

a second storage unit, designed to be readable by a computer, which stores a graphic file of an image for graphically showing a procedure of a work standard;

a setting unit adapted to, for each of target work standards to which manhours are to be given, match an expression of target work standard with the standard expressions of the work standards in said standard manhour database and set a link to a graphic file corresponding to a matching work standard and a standard manhour, as a manhour of the target work standard, corresponding to the matching work standard in said database; and

a manhour file unit adapted to store a file of manhours and links of the target work standards set by said setting unit[.].

wherein said setting unit preferentially executes a search based on complete matching between the expression of the target work standard and the standard expression of the

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work standard in said standard manhour database and, a search based on partial matching for the target work standard for which the search based on complete matching to the standard expression of the work standard in said standard manhour database fails.

2. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein

the target work standard to which the manhour is to be given is described by an operation phrase representing an operation of a work, an object phrase representing a target of the operation, and a comment phrase representing auxiliary information related to the operation and/or object, and

each of the work standards in said database is also described by an operation phrase, object phrase, and comment phrase.

3. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein

for the target work standard to which the manhour is to be given, a first comment related to an object of an operation, an object phrase representing the object of the operation, a second comment related to the operation, and an operation phrase representing the operation of the work are described in a predetermined order, and

for each of the work standards in said database, a first comment, object phrase, second comment, and operation phrase are also described in the predetermined order.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim [[4]] 1, wherein,

when the search of the expression of the target work standard in said standard manhour database fails, said setting unit executes a search in a second manhour database whose degree of standardization is lower than that of said standard manhour database.

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7. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim [[5]] 1, wherein the expression included in the target work standard includes an expression by a wild card.

8. (Original) The system according to claim 7, wherein, when a plurality of standard work standards which match a work standard including an expression including a wild card symbol are present, candidates are displayed in a descending order of the degrees of matching to cause the user to select any one of the candidates.

9. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein standard manhour data in said standard manhour database contains a manhour value and data related to a set condition when the manhour value is set.

10. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 9, wherein the condition data is referred to by a directory in a memory space of said automatic work standard setting system, and

said setting unit sets a directory value of the searched set condition data of the work standard as the manhour of the target work standard.

11. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 6, further comprising an analysis unit adapted to analyze the work standard to assign the manhour when no matching is obtained by searching the second manhour database.

12. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 6, further comprising an analysis unit adapted to analyze the work standard to assign the manhour when no matching is obtained by searching said standard manhour database.

13. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 11, wherein said analysis unit uses a creation tool with the same reference as that in creating contents of said standard manhour database.

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14. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 12, wherein said analysis unit uses a creation tool with the same reference as that in creating contents of said second manhour database.

15. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, further comprising a download ~~means for downloading~~ unit adapted to download a plurality of work standard data to which manhours are to be given.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) ~~The system according to claim 16, An automatic work standard setting system which gives manhour data to a target work standard, comprising:~~

a first storage unit which stores a standard manhour database designed to be readable by a computer, in which a number of groups each constituted by a work standard described by a standard expression and manhour corresponding to the work standard are registered in advance;

a second storage unit, designed to be readable by a computer, which stores a graphic file of an image for graphically showing a procedure of a work standard;

a setting unit adapted to, for each of target work standards to which manhours are to be given, match an expression of target work standard with the standard expressions of the work standards in said standard manhour database and set a link to a graphic file corresponding to a matching work standard and a standard manhour, as a manhour of the target work standard, corresponding to the matching work standard in said database;

a manhour file unit adapted to store a file of manhours and links of the target work standards set by said setting unit; and

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download unit adapted to download a plurality of work standard data to which manhours are to be given,

wherein the plurality of downloadable work standard are stored in an external database, and said download unit comprises:

a visualizing unit adapted to download directories of the downloadable work standards from the external database and display the directories, and

selection unit adapted to select an arbitrary one of the displayed directories, thereby selecting the target work standard to which the manhour is to be given,

and wherein

the external database stores the downloadable work standards having a hierarchical structure according to the degree of assembly,

said visualizing unit downloads upper directories to said automatic work standard setting system together with the directories of the downloadable work standards and displays the downloaded work standard directories and upper directories together, and

said selection unit can designate to select the displayed work standard directories or upper directories.

18. (Previously Presented) A distributed client/server database system comprising:

a server including said automatic work standard setting system of claim 1; and
a plurality of clients each having said setting unit of claim 1.

19. (Currently Amended) An automatic work standard setting method of giving manhour data to a target work standard, comprising:

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registering a number of groups each constituted by a work standard described by a standard expression and manhour corresponding to the work standard in advance in a standard manhour database designed to be readable by a computer;

registering a graphic file of an image for graphically showing a procedure of a work standard;

matching, for each of target work standards to which manhours are to be given, an expression of target work standard with the standard expressions of the work standards in the standard manhour database;

setting a link to a graphic file corresponding to a matching work standard and a standard manhour, as a manhour of the target work standard, corresponding to the matching work standard in the database; and

storing a file of manhours and links of the target work standards set in said setting step[.].

wherein, in said setting step, a preferential search based on complete matching between the expression of the target work standard and the standard expression of the work standard in the standard manhour database is executed and, a search based on partial matching for the target work standard for which the search based on complete matching to the standard expression of the work standard in the standard manhour database fails is executed.

20. (Original) The method according to claim 19, wherein

the target work standard to which the manhour is to be given is described by an operation phrase representing an operation of a work, an object phrase representing a target of the operation, and a comment phrase representing auxiliary information related to the operation and/or object, and

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each of the work standards in the database is also described by an operation phrase, object phrase, and comment phrase.

21. (Original) The method according to claim 19, wherein

for the target work standard to which the manhour is to be given, a first comment related to an object of an operation, an object phase representing the object of the operation, a second comment related to the operation, and an operation phrase representing the operation of the work are described in a predetermined order, and

for each of the work standards in the database, a first comment, object phrase, second comment, and operation phrase are also described in the predetermined order.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~[[22]]~~ 19, wherein, when the search of the expression of the target work standard in the standard manhour database fails, executing a search in a second manhour database whose degree of standardization is lower than that of the standard manhour database is executed in said setting step.

25. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~[[23]]~~ 19, wherein the expression included in the target work standard includes an expression by a wild card.

26. (Original) The method according to claim 25, when a plurality of standard work standards which match a work standard including an expression including a wild card symbol are present, candidates are displayed in a descending order of the degrees of matching to cause the user to select any one of the candidates.

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27. (Original) The method according to claim 19, wherein standard manhour data in the standard manhour database contains a manhour value and data related to a set condition when the manhour value is set.

28. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 27, wherein the condition data is referred to by a directory in a memory space of the automatic work standard setting system, and

in said setting step, a directory value of the searched set condition data of the work standard is set as the manhour of the target work standard.

29. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 24, further comprising analyzing the work standard to assign the manhour when no matching is obtained by searching the second manhour database.

30. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 24, further comprising analyzing the work standard to assign the manhour when no matching is obtained by searching the standard manhour database.

31. (Original) The method according to claim 29, wherein, in said analysis step, a creation tool is used with the same reference as that in creating contents of the standard manhour database.

32. (Original) The method according to claim 30, wherein, in said analysis step, a creation tool is used with the same reference as that in creating contents of the second manhour database.

33. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 19, further comprising downloading a plurality of work standard data to which manhours are to be given.

34. (Canceled)

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35. (Currently Amended) ~~The method according to claim 34,~~ An automatic work standard setting method of giving manhour data to a target work standard, comprising:
registering a number of groups each constituted by a work standard described by a standard expression and manhour corresponding to the work standard in advance in a standard manhour database designed to be readable by a computer;
registering a graphic file of an image for graphically showing a procedure of a work standard;
matching, for each of target work standards to which manhours are to be given, an expression of target work standard with the standard expressions of the work standards in the standard manhour database;
setting a link to a graphic file corresponding to a matching work standard and a standard manhour, as a manhour of the target work standard, corresponding to the matching work standard in the database;
storing a file of manhours and links of the target work standards set in said setting step;
storing a plurality of downloadable work standards in an external database;
a download step of downloading said downloadable work standards to which manhours are to be given which step comprises:
downloading directories of the downloadable work standards from the external database and displaying the directories, and
selecting an arbitrary one of the displayed directories, thereby selecting the target work standard to which the manhour is to be given, and
wherein

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the external database stores the downloadable work standards having a hierarchical structure according to the degree of assembly,

in said downloading of directories, upper directories are downloaded to the automatic work standard setting system together with the directories of the downloadable work standards,

in said displaying, the downloaded work standard directories and upper directories are displayed together, and

in said selection step, the displayed work standard directories or upper directories is selected.

36. (Original) The method according to claim 35, wherein the hierarchical structure according to the degree of assembly is formed by putting the plurality of work standards together into an upper work group and giving a group identifier to each of the groups put together.

37. (Original) The method according to claim 36, wherein the work group is classified into one of a component group formed from a plurality of work standards, a model group formed from a plurality of components, and a genre group formed from a plurality of models.

38. (Original) The method according to claim 19, wherein the manhour file has, for each work standard, a field where a log of addition and correction related to the manhour is recorded.

39. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the manhour file has, for each work standard, a field where a log of addition and correction related to the manhour is recorded.

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40. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 39, further comprising a unit adapted to refer to the log field.

41. (Currently Amended) A computer program storage medium which stores program codes of said automatic work standard setting method to realize said automatic ~~manhour~~ work standard setting method of claim 19 by a computer system.

42. (Original) The system according to claim 2, wherein
for the target work standard to which the manhour is to be given, a first comment related to an object of an operation, an object phrase representing the object of the operation, a second comment related to the operation, and an operation phrase representing the operation of the work are described in a predetermined order, and

for each of the work standards in said database, a first comment, object phrase, second comment, and operation phrase are also described in the predetermined order.

43. (Original) The method according to claim 20, wherein
for the target work standard to which the manhour is to be given, a first comment related to an object of an operation, an object phrase representing the object of the operation, a second comment related to the operation, and an operation phrase representing the operation of the work are described in a predetermined order, and

for each of the work standards in the database, a first comment, object phrase, second comment, and operation phrase are also described in the predetermined order.

44. (New) An automatic setting system which gives manhour data to a target work standard in reference to a standard manhour database designed to be readable by a computer, comprising:

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a display unit adapted to display directories of one or more target work standards downloaded from a work standards database which stores the target work standards in a hierarchical structure according to the degree of assembly, together with upper directories of the directories of the target work standards;

a selection unit adapted to select one directory from the target work standards and the upper directories displayed on said display unit;

a setting unit adapted to set a manhour to the selected target work standard selected by said selection unit by reference to standard manhours of work standards in said standard manhour database; and

a manhour file unit adapted to store a file of manhours set by said setting unit.

45. (New) An automatic setting method of giving manhour data to a target work standard by reference to a standard manhour database designed to be readable by a computer, comprising:

displaying directories of one or more target work standards downloaded from a work standards database which stores a plurality of target work standards in a hierarchical structure according to the degree of assembly, together with upper directories of the directories of the target work standards;

selecting one directory from the target work standards and the upper directories displayed;

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setting a manhour to the selected target work standard by reference to standard
manhours of work standards in said standard manhour database; and

storing a file of manhours set in said setting step.